



(U//FOUO) A Little Bad Aibling Nostalgia

FROM: Some BA Veterans
Unknown
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(U//FOUO) Once the closure of Bad Aibling Station (located in southern Bavaria in Germany) became official with [DIRgram-312](#) announcing the cessation of mission, we thought it appropriate to give those lucky enough to have been stationed there a chance to reminisce!?!

(U) You know you are a BA veteran if...

- ...driving eight hours to buy pottery is a day well spent.
- ...you get excited to see a "new release" that has been out in the States for almost a year.
- ...dreaming of honey wagons is anything but sweet.
- ...mixing lemon-lime soda with beer doesn't always seem like a bad idea.
- ...you have seen 10,000 people do the Macarena in a tent.
- ...you know that UPPER Bavaria is SOUTH of LOWER Bavaria.
- ...you've seen Neuschwanstein or the Glockenspiel in Munich 53 times, and never because YOU wanted to go.
- ...you've been to "town hall" meetings at which a final decision to close the site was announced in three different years.
- ...you attended both the final closing and re-opening of the AFRC facilities at Chiemsee.
- ...Derek the car registration guy has called you "mate".
- ...you bought a sea-van's worth of Windex, "just because it was in stock today".
- ...you have spent \$200 worth of time to get \$40 worth of Italian gas coupons.
- ...while dining, you consistently chose beer as your beverage because it was half the price of Coke!
- ...you missed a day of mission work to verify the slot machine take at the club.
- ...you've concluded that, as a general rule in restaurants, German dogs behave better than some American patrons.
- ...your windshield still has an Austrian Autobahn Toll Vignette on it.
- ...driving on the Autobahn at 120 mph seems far safer than traveling the Washington Beltway.
- ...you know that leberkaese is made neither of liver, nor cheese.
- ...you welcomed biergarten season because a non-smoking restaurant was never an option.
- ...you swapped free beers for free pizza at the 4th of July fest.
- ...you understand why perfectly normal people bang tiny bottles of schnapps on a fest table before drinking them.
- ...you purchased window screens and Velcro tape in order to keep mosquitoes from invading your house.
- ...you had a map of every ESSO gas station in Germany and planned your trips accordingly.
- ...you understood why you needed to have someone guard your vehicle when you went pottery shopping in Poland.
- ...you packed out to return to the States, but bought more stuff and had to ship it home with a friend who was leaving after you.
- ...you sought out the person with the schedule for working the beer booth at the 4th of July fest.
- ...you were a recipient of a "free beer at the club" email.

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